

centrifuge is a variable speed centrifuge.

REMARKS

The Applicants have amended the claims as shown above and request that the amendment be entered into the case before examination.


FEES

It is believe that there is no fees due with this amendment as the number of claims does not exceed 20 with the addition of the new claim 39. However, if a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to deposit account 02-4070 referencing case number 6444-PA04D.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 5, 2002

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Docket No.: 6444-PA04D



VERSION OF SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS INDICATING CHANGES

33. (Once amended) An automated system for treatment of a plurality of chemical or biological samples attached to solid supports comprising:

- a sample/collection container;
- a [variable-speed] centrifuge having a chamber and a rotor with a plurality of loading positions for retaining a plurality of sample/collection containers;
- at least one dispensing station disposed at least partially in the chamber for dispensing a treatment solution into the plurality of sample/collection containers; and
- a computer control unit for controlling and monitoring each of the centrifuge and the at least one dispensing station, wherein the at least one dispensing station comprises:
 - a housing attached to the chamber;
 - a dispensing head extending from the housing into the chamber, the dispensing head having a plurality of dispensing tips extending therefrom and arrayed in a pattern corresponding to an array of wells in the sample/collection container;
 - a plurality of reservoirs for retaining a measured amount of treatment solution;
 - a plurality of tubes extending through the housing and the dispensing head, each tube having a first end and a second end, one tube corresponding to each reservoir of the plurality of reservoirs, the first end being disposed adjacent to the reservoir and the second end connected to a corresponding tip of the plurality of tips; and
 - a pressure source for forcing treatment solution from the reservoirs through the tubes and out of the corresponding tip into a corresponding well of the sample/collection container.

39. (New) The automated cleavage system of Claim 33, wherein the centrifuge is a variable speed centrifuge.

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